

# NFBP INC.

NEWARK FIGHTING BACK PARTNERSHIP  
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Mayor Sharpe James  
*Ex Officio,*  
Rev. Dr. Edward B. Smart, Jr.  
*Chair*

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## FACT SHEET

The Newark Fighting Back Partnership (NFBP) is a community initiative to reduce the demand for drugs and alcohol in the City of Newark. The NFBP's mission is to build the capacity of neighborhood residents and institutions to create a social environment which resists drug and alcohol abuse. Formed in 1990, the NFBP receives major funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's national "Fighting Back" program.

The NFBP is composed of people who are committed to "fighting back" against the negative impacts caused by illegal alcohol and drug activity—residents, business owners, clergy, service providers, public and law enforcement officials, and a host of others. The NFBP is poised to aid in the enhancement of key community networks so that after the designated 5 year life of the initiative, the citizens of Newark are organized to provide our children with safe, clean and drug resistant communities.

The NFBP works through four partnership committees which address the fundamental issues and root causes surrounding substance abuse—Economic Development and Employment Services; Education & Youth; Health & Substance Abuse; and Public Safety and Empowerment. The committees meet monthly to discuss concerns and identify measures to address them. All of the committees are open to anyone interested in becoming involved.

The NFBP has been successful in forging a number of collaborations that are aimed at providing a foundation for true systematic change. Some of them include: a NFBP support/referral information clearinghouse, an intensive outpatient treatment program, the establishment of the Newark Housing Partnership, a staff of VISTA volunteers to aid in organizing anti-drug training for area children, and the formation of two neighborhood coalitions.

The NFBP is fortunate to have a diverse group of partners at the table, each willing to provide the time and resources needed to improve the quality of life in Newark. Among the partners that have been pivotal in the success of the initiative are the Honorable Sharpe James, Mayor of Newark and NFBP Honorary Chairperson; and Reverend Edward B. Smart, Jr., Co-Chair.